

Burnham was also for a time Justice of the Peace and J. R. Durfee in his history of Carbondale published in 1872, quotes a saying of his which is often heard today and shows that there is nothing new under the sun. Mr. Durfee says: "Mr. Burnham also kept one horse to let and when Abram Peck kept one to let also, he remarked that it was strange that a man could not engage in any kind of business but that some one else must engage in the same business and spoil it all."

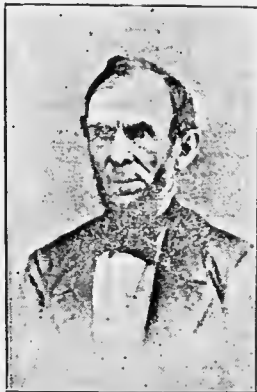
In early times near where the *Leader* building now stands was the dwelling of Jno. Pettigrew, a sturdy Scotchman and leader of his people here. A lot or two below stood the hotel of John Coyle, who like his neighbor, was the king and leader of the Irish. His house was a reservoir of pictures and data of Irish saints and heroes. In every celebration John Coyle was a prime mover. He was before the days of photographs and all efforts to obtain a picture of this prominent citizen failed.

Charles T. Pierson came to Carbondale in 1836. He bought the foundry of Eggleston & Reed, and for over a decade was a leading citizen. In 1847 the firm was changed to Pierson & Benjamin and in 1850 Mr. Pierson sold his interest and the firm became Benjamin & Co. He then removed to Scranton and afterwards was one of the projectors and partners in the Dickson Manufacturing works. He died about 1858.

Robert Maxwell was born in Scotland in 1806. In 1834 he came to America and settled in Dundaff. Soon after he came to Carbondale. For thirty-six years Mr. Maxwell was in the employ of the D & H. Canal company, having charge of the local freight transported over the Gravity railroad. He afterwards entered into mercantile pursuits and died in 1892.

Archibald Law came in 1830: put in the first under ground mine and was first mining engineer for the D. & H.

Dr. R. A. Rafferty came from near Wurtsboro, and opened an office here in the early days. He was an educated man, familiar with Greek and Latin, and would quote Virgil by the hour with great correctness. He was well versed in the profession of medicine and had an immense practice. We present a picture of

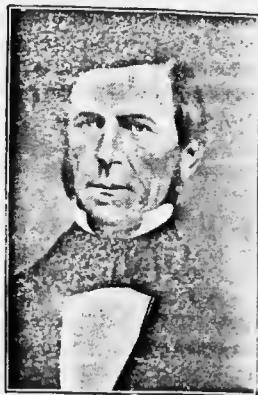


J. BENJAMIN,
One of the First Select Councilmen.

his home as being characteristic of the second period of Carbondale's progress.

Terence Powderly came here in the spring of 1829 and was one of those who helped to start the cars on the Gravity road. He helped to fell the timber for a road from the foot of No. 1 plane to James Archbald's house—what is now North Church street. In 1845 he had charge of a gang of men that made several openings in the hillside near the present Keystone colliery, and Powderly mine is named after him. He died in 1882, age 85 years.

John Foley came also about 1829 and died 1885, aged 77 years. He was one of those who helped



THOMAS GILLESPIE,
The First Broker.

to fell the forest trees from which the first St. Rose church was built. In those days many workmen carried guns as a protection against occasional attacks by wolves. There were only three houses here then. A frame boarding house, a log building for a D. & H. office and a building for the bosses erecting the Gravity road.

Caleb Brewster Hackley, aged 70 years, died at Tarrytown, July 24th, 1894. Mr. Hackley was among the very first to come to this settlement and Mrs. Hackley retains such an interest in those early days as to make her a munificent contributor to our hospital last year.

John H. McAlpine came here in 1830 from Albany. He left in 1846. He was the first superintendent of the D & H. Gravity machine shop and for many years was his own purchaser, manager and paymaster. It was no uncommon occurrence when settling with his hands, sometimes not for three months, for him to give them his check with the letters, "I O. U. so much, J. H. McAlpine." The checks were at par and honored at any counter.

Major Thomas Meredith, who was born in Philadelphia in 1779, was the only son of Samuel Meredith, first treasurer of the United States. He first lived at Belmont and was Prothonotary, Register of Wills and Recorder of Deeds for Wayne county from 1821 to 1823. He came to Carbondale and built Meredith cottage, a short distance below the city which was known as a social center. He was in the war of 1812 and for bravery was made a major. His death took